

Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1. (Currently amended) A loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an acceleration sensor, wherein the acceleration sensor detects vehicle acceleration;

means for determining a collision based on an output signal from the acceleration sensor and a collision determination threshold value, and outputting an airbag release signal, in a case where the collision determination means determines that the vehicle has collided;

means for igniting a squib by electrical power from an electrical source to release and load an airbag, in a case where the airbag release signal has been output; and

means for judging whether the output signal from the acceleration sensor is a normal signal or an abnormal signal based on a normal or abnormal threshold value, wherein

the collision determination means determines whether or not the vehicle has collided based only on the normal signal.

2. (Currently amended) A loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an acceleration sensor for detecting acceleration of a vehicle;

collision determination means for determining whether or not the vehicle has collided based on an output signal from the acceleration sensor and a collision determination threshold value, and outputting an airbag release signal in a case where the collision determination means determines that the vehicle has collided;

loading means for igniting a squib by means of electrical power from a battery or a backup electric source to release and load an airbag, in a case where the airbag release signal has been output;

judgment means for judging whether the output signal from the acceleration sensor is a normal signal or an abnormal signal based on a normal or abnormal threshold value; and

abnormal signal processing means for performing specific abnormal signal processing on the abnormal signal to generate an abnormal signal processing signal, wherein

the collision determination means determines whether or not the vehicle has collided based on the normal signal and the abnormal signal processing signal.

3. (Currently amended) ~~The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 2,~~ A loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an acceleration sensor for detecting acceleration of a vehicle;

collision determination means for determining whether or not the vehicle has collided based on an output signal from the acceleration sensor, and outputting an airbag release signal in a case where the collision determination means determines that the vehicle has collided;

loading means for igniting a squib by means of electrical power from a battery or a backup electric source to release and load an airbag, in a case where the airbag release signal has been output;

judgment means for judging whether the output signal from the acceleration sensor is a normal signal or an abnormal signal; and

abnormal signal processing means for performing specific abnormal signal processing on the abnormal signal to generate an abnormal signal processing signal, wherein

the collision determination means determines whether or not the vehicle has collided based on the normal signal and the abnormal signal processing signal, wherein the abnormal signal processing means further comprises:

immediately preceding normal signal storing means for storing an immediately preceding normal signal output value, which is an output value of the normal signal immediately preceding the abnormal signal; and

abnormal signal processing signal setting means for setting the value of the abnormal signal processing signal to the immediately preceding normal signal output value.

4. (Currently amended) ~~The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 2,~~ A loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an acceleration sensor for detecting acceleration of a vehicle;

collision determination means for determining whether or not the vehicle has collided based on an output signal from the acceleration sensor, and outputting an airbag release signal in a case where the collision determination means determines that the vehicle has collided;

loading means for igniting a squib by means of electrical power from a battery or a backup electric source to release and load an airbag, in a case where the airbag release signal has been output;

judgment means for judging whether the output signal from the acceleration sensor is a normal signal or an abnormal signal; and

abnormal signal processing means for performing specific abnormal signal processing on the abnormal signal to generate an abnormal signal processing signal, wherein

the collision determination means determines whether or not the vehicle has collided based on the normal signal and the abnormal signal processing signal,

wherein the abnormal signal processing means sets the value of the abnormal signal processing signal to zero.

5. (Currently amended) ~~The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 1 or 2,~~ A loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device of a vehicle, the system comprising:

an acceleration sensor for detecting acceleration of a vehicle;

collision determination means for determining whether or not the vehicle has collided based on an output signal from the acceleration sensor, and outputting an airbag release signal in a case where the collision determination means determines that the vehicle has collided;

loading means for igniting a squib by means of electrical power from a battery or a backup electric source to release and load an airbag, in a case where the airbag release signal has been output;

judgment means for judging whether the output signal from the acceleration sensor is a normal signal or an abnormal signal; and

abnormal signal processing means for performing specific abnormal signal processing on the abnormal signal to generate an abnormal signal processing signal, wherein

the collision determination means determines whether or not the vehicle has collided based on the normal signal and the abnormal signal processing signal,

wherein the normal/abnormal judgment means comprises:

change amount calculating means for calculating an output value change amount, being an amount that an output value of the output signal from the acceleration sensor changes, during a predetermined period of time; and

comparative judging means for comparing the output value change amount and a normal/abnormal determination threshold value, and judging that the output signal from the acceleration sensor is abnormal in a case where the output value change amount exceeds the normal/abnormal determination threshold value.

6. (Original) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 5, where the normal/abnormal determination threshold value is a value equal to a specific proportion of the maximum value of the output signal from the acceleration sensor.

7. (Original) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 1, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.

8. (New) A method of controlling a vehicle-mounted device, the method comprising:
receiving an output signal of a sensor provided in a vehicle as a satellite sensor;
sampling the output signal of the sensor periodically;
calculating a change in the sampled output signal;
determining whether the output signal of the sensor is normal or abnormal by using the calculated change; and

driving the vehicle-mounted device based on the sampled output signal, by canceling or processing the abnormal sampled output signal when the output signal is determined as abnormal.

9. (New) The method of controlling a vehicle-mounted device according to claim 8, wherein:

the sensor is an acceleration sensor;

the vehicle-mounted device is an airbag;

the determining uses a predetermined normal/abnormal threshold value in determining whether the output signal is normal or abnormal; and

the driving uses a predetermined collision determination threshold value to determine a vehicle collision and to drive the airbag.

10. (New) The method of controlling a vehicle-mounted device according to claim 9, wherein:

the predetermined normal/abnormal threshold value is set to about 30% of a maximum value of the output signal, which the sensor normally produces.

11. (New) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 2, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.

12. (New) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 3, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.

13. (New) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 4, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.

14. (New) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 5, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.

15. (New) The loading system for a vehicle passenger protection device according to claim 6, wherein the acceleration sensor is a satellite sensor.